



Hundreds of students have to risk it all to run across dangerous Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway as all agencies involved forgot to construct skywalk or pedestrian subway

LIFE ON THE FAST LANE

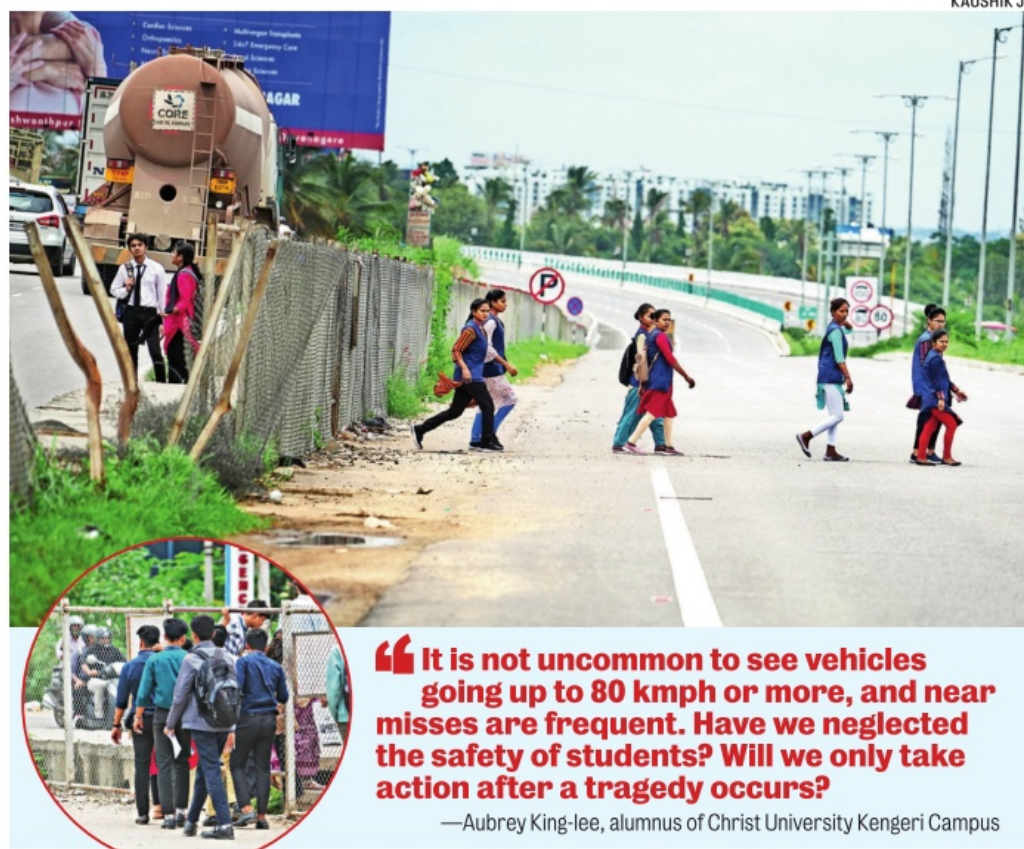
Year after inauguration of highway, only survey to identify suitable location for skywalk is done so far

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With the vehicles zipping past at high speeds on the six-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway, students of Christ University Kengeri Campus are facing a lot of problems crossing the busy road. There is neither a pedestrian subway nor a skywalk for the benefit of hundreds of students. They have to walk more than 500 metres or take risks to cross the busy road thus making themselves vulnerable to road accidents. The students, who stay in PGs or those who want to board Bengaluru-bound buses after attending classes, have to cross the road during the weekdays.

The state government organised a grand event in Mandya for the inauguration of 119-km long six-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru Express on March 12, 2023. However, the authorities concerned, including the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), have forgotten to construct the much-needed skywalk or pedestrian subway for the benefit

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 >>



Structural defect

Citizens reach out to BBMP about buildings violating several bylaws in their area



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Citizens from multiple areas across the city are reaching out to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and raising complaints about structures violating building bylaws.

One such complaint has been raised against a building on Nandidurga Road Extension. According to the complaint raised by a senior citizen, the building has over 15 major violations, including illegal water and electricity connections.

The building on a small plot area was started years ago with a plan to construct six floors. Residents then raised the issue and complained to the BBMP and even met the then-chief minister.

“A building at the junction of Second Cross and 5th Road reportedly has a generator on an upper floor. The owners sold the building, and after years of litigation, the building is now occupied. Since then, violators started building extra floors, and currently, there are over 15 major violations. Reportedly, they have installed a generator on one of the floors and have planned a swimming pool inside the building.

There are illegal water and electricity connections that have been reported to BBMP, BESCOM, and BWSSB. The building next door, completed recently, is also in violation,” alleged a resident. Locals say boosters are yet another problem.

“They are not only violating building

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 >>

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Laugh out loud

Join in for a fun-filled entertaining night with 'The 20s Versus 30s Show!' a standup comedy and panel show discussing tragedies of the 20s and 30s with Manish Jain (1990 man) and Vishal Sivakumar (1999 boy). The show has jokes from their life experiences that are relatable to both generations. Come, catch them talking about their petty problems, and validate them.
Where: Ministry of Comedy, Koramangala
When: August 3, 9 pm

02 Handloom exhibit



This Handloom Day, Ragi Kana, the popular Cultural Hub, Weekend Santhe, and Discussion Forum, provides a unique opportunity for people in Bengaluru to interact with weavers firsthand and learn about their work. The event will also

feature a block printing workshop and the exhibition and sale of a wide variety of handloom fabrics and garments, including Desi, Indu Silks, Khana Weaves, Maya, Nature Alley, Sarvodaya Khadi, Somadha Khadi, Tarivarna, Tula, and others. **Where:** Sri Ramakrishna Samagra Shikshana Kendra School Campus, Gottigere; **When:** August 4, 10 am to 4 pm

03 Intriguing watch

Watch 'Apne Ghar Jaisa,' a play that creates an image of everyday bigotry and its potential to impoverish the self and tear apart the social fabric. The protagonist in the play finds all kinds of reasons for turning away an unwelcome guest — not only to protect her identity but also to cope with loss and grief. In the process, she enters a dark place within herself, constructs caricatures of people 'not like us', and destroys the very thing she most cherishes and wants to preserve. **Where:** Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; **When:** August 4



Creating a floral world

Preparations are in full swing for Lalbagh's Independence Day Flower Show, where every bloom honours and celebrates the life and achievements of Dr BR Ambedkar

PIC: KAUSHIK JN



From face to fingerprint, plan is on to mark out imposters

To ensure exam integrity, KEA proposes fingerprint authentication, face recognition system for all recruitment exams; govt yet to give its green signal

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Aiming to ensure transparency and prevent malpractices in the recruitment process, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has proposed collecting candidates' fingerprints, in addition to face recognition, during government recruitment exams. The proposal suggests collecting fingerprints in the Aadhaar format at the exam centre to prevent impersonation. Additionally, fingerprints will be collected again when the final selection list is announced to confirm the identity of the selected candidate. The government has yet to make a decision on this proposal.

Meanwhile, the KEA has submitted a comprehensive proposal to the government to implement webcasting, face recognition, and fingerprint collection for all its exams. The proposal suggests making these measures mandatory for all exams, including recruitment exams and the Common Entrance Test (CET), to ensure that the actual candidate appears for the exam. A senior official said, "The KEA has decided to integrate artificial intelligence-powered CC cameras and webcasting systems into all examinations, including CET and various

government recruitment tests, to curb malpractices. This decision was made during the authority's administrative council meeting on Thursday. The meeting also resolved to employ modern technology for capturing candidates' fingerprints and facial recognition during exams."

H Prasanna, Executive Director of KEA, confirmed that the proposal has been submitted and is currently under discussion at the government level. Stating that the webcasting and face recognition system will help identify and prevent impersonation

“Additionally, competitive exams with fewer than 20,000 candidates will be conducted using computer-based testing — Senior official

and other fraudulent activities during exams, an official said, "The system was successfully piloted during the recent recruitment exams for the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTCL), Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC), and Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board (KUWSDB) on July 13 and 14. Following the success of the



Higher Education Minister MC Sudhakar inspects the webcasting system during the Karnataka State Eligibility Test (KSET) in July at the KEA office in Bengaluru

pilot, KEA has proposed to the government to roll out this system for all professional course exams, including engineering, veterinary, and agriculture."

A meeting led by Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar discussed the implementation of webcasting and face recognition systems. Impressed by the successful trial run in recent recruitment exams, the minister showed interest in extending these systems to all exams. During the meeting, sources indicated that a clear decision is expected soon.

The minister had personally monitored the trial run at the KEA office, identified loopholes, and took immediate action

against the responsible centre heads. This initiative has received widespread praise, and it is anticipated that these systems will be implemented in all exams henceforth. "Additionally, competitive exams with fewer than 20,000 candidates will be conducted using computer-based testing. To facilitate these upgrades, a tender process has been approved with a budget of Rs 20 crore. The AI-powered CC cameras will be used to detect and alert authorities to any malpractices during exams, while the webcasting system will enable real-time monitoring of each exam centre and room from a central office, allowing for immediate intervention if necessary," the senior official added.

Solution for Saturday night traffic fever

Heavy goods vehicles' entry to city barred from 10 am-2:30 pm, 4:30-9 pm



Hanging bridge at KR Puram jam packed due to heavy traffic after evening rain on Wednesday in Bengaluru

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When it comes to traffic, Bengaluru experiences 'Saturday blues' due to a significant increase in congestion; in fact, this is why the Peenya flyover has been closed to heavy goods traffic on Saturdays. Now, the police have taken additional measures to tackle the Saturday traffic by extending the restrictions on heavy vehicles entering the city on Saturdays.

Currently, heavy goods vehicles (HGVs), including large trucks, lorries, and other commercial transporters, are prohibited from operating daily between 7 am and 11 am and from 4 pm to 10 pm from Sunday to Friday. However, new regulations have been put in place for Saturdays, further restricting these vehicles from 10 am to 2:30 pm and from 4:30 pm to 9 pm.

A senior police official said, "Saturdays have seen a significant increase in traffic congestion during these peak hours as people often visit restaurants and attend various work-related activities; hence, the decision comes after numerous complaints from citizens and traffic studies indicating that HGVs contribute to congestion during rush hours. These restrictions are crucial for managing the smooth flow of traffic. We are imposing additional restrictions specifically aimed at avoiding the clogging of roads during peak hours when traffic is at its highest."

Transport companies have expressed mixed reactions to the new timing. Meanwhile, many have expressed their

gratitude for implementing these restrictions through social media.

e-challan scams

The police have introduced a new challan system to combat the increasing number of cyber scams targeting traffic challan payment links. Alok Kumar, the Additional Director General of Police, announced the establishment of a secure link for paying traffic fines throughout Karnataka, excluding Bengaluru city. This system aims to address the ongoing issue of e-challan scams and streamline the collection of fines. Kumar emphasised the importance of using this secure link and warned, "Please pay your fine to avoid unsolicited personal visits by police to your doorsteps."

The decision comes based on complaints and studies indicating HGVs contribute to congestion

—Traffic official

Motorists have been increasingly falling victim to sophisticated e-challan scams, with incidents reported on April 1, 2024, and February 24, 2024. Fraudsters employ various tactics to steal money from citizens, such as sending fake traffic challans via SMS or WhatsApp.

Sources said that scammers also create fake websites and apps that mimic official government platforms for paying traffic fines, which are designed to steal personal and financial information once users enter their details.

Watch your speed on NICE Road

New speed limits have been established to enhance road safety in response to tragic incidents on the NICE Road since Friday due to speeding and reckless driving. Vehicles on expressways with access control are restricted to 120 km/h; motor vehicles used for carrying up to eight passengers (M1 category) are limited to 100 km/h; and those used for transporting nine or more passengers (M2 and M3 categories) are restricted to 80 km/h. Similarly, vehicles used for carrying goods (all N-category

vehicles) and motorcycles are also capped at 80 km/h. Additionally, two-wheelers are prohibited from using the NICE road between 10 pm and 5 am every day.

Meanwhile, police have announced that violations such as speeding, using mobile phones, and failing to follow lane discipline will be captured on cameras along the NICE road, with offenders facing penalties. Additional Director General of Police Alok Kumar stated that the installation of ANPR cameras will assist in detecting speeding vehicles on the NICE road.

'Day Beat' system

The Bengaluru City Police have decided to implement a new 'Day Beat' system to enhance crime control measures across the city. While the city currently employs the 'Smart e-Beat' system for night patrols, the introduction of day beats across all eight law and order divisions aims to further improve crime prevention efforts. A senior police official said, "The day

beat system is designed to strengthen crime control and prevent criminal activities during daylight hours. It will enable the police to monitor suspicious behaviour more effectively and respond promptly. Additionally, this initiative is expected to enhance relations between the police and the public. In fact, the introduction of the day beat is part of a broader strategy to better manage criminal activities."

—BMB

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Towns like Devanahalli and Hoskote will become suburbs of Bengaluru to ease congestion and boost economic growth

Outer towns poised for suburban growth

As Bengaluru is growing rapidly, the nearby towns have now become an extension of Bengaluru City. There has been a demand to merge them in the proposed Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). However, the government has said that these towns won't be part of the GBA but will be developed as suburbs.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar recently announced that Devanahalli, Nelamangala, Hoskote, Doddaballapur, Magadi, and Bidadi will be developed as suburbs of Bengaluru. Experts said that this will be a pivotal strategy for the city's growth. The expansion of these towns into well-planned suburbs will have a multifaceted impact on Bengaluru, driving economic development, improving infrastructure, and enhancing the quality of life for its residents.

"One of the primary benefits of developing these towns as suburbs is the decrease in the pressure on Bengaluru's urban core. As the city's population continues to grow, the central areas are becoming increasingly congested. By creating well-planned suburban areas, the burden on Bengaluru's infrastructure, such as roads, public transportation, and utilities, can be significantly reduced. Suburbs will provide additional space for residential and commercial development, thus distributing the population more evenly across the metropolitan region. Economic growth will be a significant driver behind this suburban development. These towns are strategically located around Bengaluru and have the potential to attract businesses looking for affordable real estate and less congested environments. As businesses establish themselves in these suburbs, they will create job opportunities for the local population, reducing the need for daily commutes into the city. This decentralisation will help in balancing economic activity across the region, leading to more uniform economic growth", said Sandesh Hegde, a real estate developer.

The development of suburbs will likely spur infrastructure improvements. "For instance, upgrading roads, expanding public transportation networks, and enhancing utility services will benefit the suburbs and also improve connectivity. Investments in infrastructure will make commuting more efficient. Enhanced transportation infrastructure will also make the suburbs more attrac-



Developed suburbs can attract businesses and create job opportunities

tive to businesses and residents alike, contributing to their growth. With the integration of modern planning principles, these areas can be designed with a focus on sustainability, green spaces, and improved living conditions. Moreover, by planning for mixed-use developments, these suburbs can offer a balance of residential, commercial, and recreational facilities, creating vibrant and self-sufficient communities", said Uma Kumar, a realtor.

The development of these suburban areas will provide a much-needed solution to the housing crisis in Bengaluru. "With the increasing population, the demand for affordable housing has surged. By expanding the city's bounda-

ries and developing new residential areas, the supply of housing can be increased, thus addressing the affordability issue. Suburbs can offer more space and lower costs compared to the densely packed city centre, making homeownership more accessible to a broader segment of the population. In terms of environmental impact, well-planned suburbs can contribute to more sustainable living practices. By incorporating green building standards, energy-efficient infrastructure, and conservation practices, these suburbs can become models of environmentally friendly development. The expansion of Bengaluru into these suburban areas will lead to the development of new educational and healthcare facilities," said Hegde.

Kumar added that development of suburbs will play a crucial role. "It will alleviate pressure on the city's infrastructure, spur economic development, improve living conditions, and promote sustainable practices," she added.

-Prakash VL

“With integration of modern planning principles, these areas can be designed with a focus on sustainability, green spaces, and improved living conditions

- Uma Kumar, realtor

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Bengaluru sees 39% surge in retail leasing

According to the Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis (CBRE) report, Bengaluru saw a 39% year-on-year increase in retail leasing across malls and high streets in the first half of 2024. The total leasing during this period stood at 1.0 million square feet, up from 0.8 million square feet in the same period last year. Fashion and apparel led the tenant sectors with a 40% share, followed by food and beverage at 15%, and homeware and department stores at 12%. Key lease transactions included Inox with 50,000 square feet at Phoenix Mall of Asia, Reliance Smart Point with 37,000 square feet at Salarpuria Divinity Mall, and H&M with 36,500 square feet at Phoenix Mall of Asia.

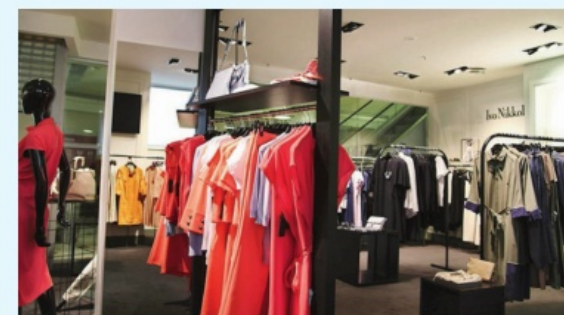
On a pan-India basis, retail leasing reached a five-year high in the first half of 2024, totalling 3.1 million square feet across eight cities, compared to the previous five-year period. On an annual basis, retail leasing grew by 7% year-on-year in the first half of 2024, reaching 3.1 million square feet, up from 2.9 million square feet in the first half of 2023. Bengaluru, followed by Chennai and Delhi-NCR, accounted for nearly 59% of the total leasing.

Fashion and apparel dominated leasing in the first half of 2024 with a

39% share, driven by mid-range, value fashion, and athleisure brands. The entertainment sector and homeware and department stores contributed 13% and 11% to leasing activity during this period, respectively.

India continues to attract foreign retailers to key locations, with notable entries such as Charles Tyrwhitt in Ahmedabad, Maison Margiela in Mumbai, and Franck Provost in Bengaluru. Other international brands expanding in India include Breitling in Chennai, Michael Kors in Pune, Daiso Japan, and ILEM Japan in Chennai. The first half of 2024 saw the addition of approximately 0.5 million square feet of retail space across tier-I cities. An increase in supply is expected in the second half of 2024 with new investment-grade malls set to begin operations in towns like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai, projected to add 3-4 million square feet of new retail space.

Anshuman Magazine, Chairman & CEO of Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis India, South-East Asia, Middle East & Africa, noted that retail absorption increased in the first half of the year annually. The ongoing introduction of quality supply is expected to continue stimulating overall space take-up in the coming quarters.



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Namma metro gears up for million riders

BMRCCL is booming with daily ridership averaging 7.45 lakh, expected to exceed 10 lakh by year-end, with new lines significantly boosting future growth

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The Namma metro network is experiencing a surge in ridership, with current daily passenger numbers averaging 7.45 lakh. This figure is projected to exceed 10 lakh per day by the end of the year, following the launch of the Yellow Line. The Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation anticipates that the new Electronic City corridor, linking RV Road to Bommasandra, will serve around 4 lakh passengers daily, with an initial daily ridership expectation of 2 lakh.

An official said, "There are several key stations on this route including Jayadeva Hospital, BTM Layout, Silk Board Junction, and Electronic City. Currently, a driverless train from China is undergoing tests on this corridor. The Pink Line, connecting Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara, is slated to open in March 2025, and the Blue Line, linking to Kempegowda International Airport, is expected in April 2026.

The addition of these lines is forecasted to push metro ridership beyond 20 lakh. In June, the metro averaged 7,45,659 passengers daily, peaking at 8,08,071 on June 19. Overall, 2,22,63,299 passengers used the metro that month, gener-

ating a revenue of Rs 58.23 crore. The previous highest daily ridership was 7.18 lakh on June 3, with February's average at 7.05 lakh, January's at 7.01 lakh, and December 2023's at 6.88 lakh."

For example, in June, a total of 2.23 crore people travelled on the metro's Purple and Green lines, with a peak of 8.08 lakh passengers

Passenger numbers are steadily increasing as more people opt for the metro to avoid city traffic congestion

— Official

on June 19 alone. Of the total passengers, 50.06% used smart cards, 30.45% used tokens, and 19.49% utilised QR code tickets. The BMRCCL earned a revenue of Rs 58.23 crore for the month.

A senior official said, "Passenger numbers are steadily increasing as more people opt for the metro to avoid city traffic congestion. The completion of the metro extension between Baiyappanahalli and K.R. Puram on the Purple Line, along with the introduction of direct services to Whitefield, has contributed to this surge. The daily ridership on the Green and Purple lines has risen



In June, 2.23 crore riders used the Purple and Green lines, with a peak of 8.08 lakh on June 19; BMRCCL's revenue was Rs 58.23 crore

Four-year-old accidentally falls on track

Security concerns at the metro have been raised following an incident at Baiyappanahalli Metro Station. On August 1, 2024, at 9:08 pm, a four-year-old boy who was playing on Platform 2 with his sibling accidentally fell onto the tracks while waiting for a train. A BMRCCL official said, "The Station Controller immediately activated the Emergency Trip System (ETS) and alerted the approaching train operators to stop. Security guards also triggered the ETS on both Platforms 1 and 2. The boy was

quickly retrieved from the tracks and returned to the platform. The Station Controller, upon arrival, found only minor scratches behind the boy's left ear and no significant injuries. The boy and his mother were escorted by Metro Security to Sir CV Raman Hospital, where doctors found no abnormalities and referred them to Victoria Hospital. The scan at Victoria Hospital also showed no issues, leading to the boy's discharge. Train services resumed at 9:15 pm after the all-clear was given."

from 6.5 lakh to over 7 lakh recently. In July, the average daily ridership was 7.45 lakh. The Purple Line, in particular, is experiencing significant congestion during peak hours,

with passengers often struggling to board the trains. Despite the addition of 15 extra trains during peak times from Majestic, it remains insufficient."

Daily ordeal: HSR Layout residents bear brunt

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The city's road conditions have been a long-standing issue for its residents, despite substantial funds being allocated by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for development and maintenance. One such area facing severe neglect is the HSR Layout, a crucial connection point for commuters travelling to Kudlu. The Bengaluru NavaNirman Party (BNP) has highlighted these problems, urging officials to take immediate action.

Residents of HSR Layout have been in discussions with authorities for over a year and a half, but the road conditions remain poor. The Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has repeatedly dug up the roads, leaving open pits that pose safety hazards. Additionally, electrical work has left exposed wires on the footpaths. Heavy rains have only worsened the situation, making the roads almost impossible to navigate.

Praveen, a resident of Bellandur, expressed his concerns, stating, "This is the primary road connecting HSR Layout and Kudlu, and it is crucial for people travelling to HSR Layout. For the past year and a half, we've been in discussions



Open pits, exposed wires and heavy rains make roads hazardous and impassable

with officials, but the work done has been subpar. The BWSSB has dug up the road multiple times in the last year and left the pits open. The residents try concealing these pits with bricks and mud, but all these efforts are in vain. During the last drive to clear the electrical poles, BBMP had removed cable wires from the poles, however, the same was left on the sidelines/footpath as a danger to pedestrians."

Waterlogging during heavy rains has also been

a significant issue. "There are two drainage areas along this road, and during heavy rains, waterlogging occurs up to knee level, making the area muddy and challenging to navigate. These roadside drains were cleaned about four months ago. However, after the cleanup, the waste was left on the road for a month and later used to plant small trees along the roadside. Considering the road is already narrow, adding plants has further constrained the space. It's disheartening that no action has been taken, even after bringing the situation to the attention of the concerned officials. The problem is getting worse every day with the rains," Praveen added.

Vishnu Reddy, Zonal President of BNP Mahadevapura, commented on the lack of responsiveness from officials. "Bengaluru's civic issues are becoming more problematic due to continued neglect from officials. Despite numerous complaints, the necessary actions have not been taken, leaving residents to face the consequences. This lack of responsiveness disrupts daily life and poses serious safety risks. The time for excuses is over, we demand immediate and effective action from the concerned authorities."

The BNP is urging the authorities to address these issues with urgency, stressing that the neglect is causing danger to residents.

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Incomplete work

Viveknagar



Residents are being inconvenienced by the unfinished stretch of road on 7th Main, Viveknagar.

Work fallout

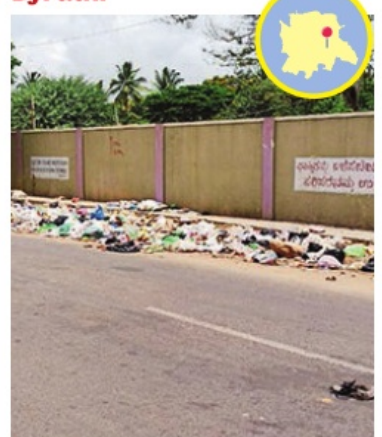
JP Nagar



Work by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board has damaged pavements and bus stops in JP Nagar 7th Phase, Gaurav Nagar, leading to increased air pollution.

Unsightly waste

Byrathi



The increasing amount of garbage accumulating outside the buildings on Hennur Bagalur Main Road, Rammana Layout, Byrathi, creates an eyesore and poses health risks to the neighbourhood.

OTS scheme for property tax extended until August 31

The Karnataka government on Friday extended the deadline for the 'One-Time Settlement' (OTS) scheme for property tax in Bengaluru by one month.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had introduced the OTS scheme for approximately four lakh property tax defaulters, offering a 100 per cent reduction in interest and a 50 per cent reduction in penalties.

Announcing the extension for the scheme, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said, "The OTS period for the payment of the property tax ended on July 31, but on public demand, the deadline has been extended by one month, until August 31." Talking to media persons, he said, "So far, the property tax collection has reached Rs 3,000 crore. There has been pressure from officials and the public

to extend the OTS period by a month. Due to server issues and some people submitting checks late, the deadline initially set for July 31 has been extended to August 31."

He added, "We will make some changes to ensure that those who have paid their taxes honestly are not inconvenienced. If someone has paid more, it will be adjusted in their next property tax payment. There is no need to be unduly worried about this."

No substance or meaning in BJP's padayatra: DKS

When asked about the Congress party's counter-strategy against the BJP's padayatra, Shivakumar said, "There is no substance or meaning in the BJP's padayatra. What is the issue with their padayatra? If there are any new scams

during our government's term, they should point them out. The previous BJP governments were the most corrupt in the state's history. Therefore, we ask three to four questions daily about the scams of their time and the injustices done to the state Budget. They should answer."

Shivakumar claimed, "The JD(S) did not want to participate in the BJP's padayatra, but they were intimidated and coerced to agree. Whatever they do is their concern. Ask them about the secrets of their agreement." On any state-wide movements by the Congress to counter the opposition, he said, "First, we will question them about the irregularities that occurred during their tenure. They should provide answers. Then we will consider organising the state-level agitation."

—IANS



'The property tax collection has reached Rs 3,000 crore so far'

Fixed library hours: Weekly escape into world of books

Reading books will foster reading habits in children, develop their intellectual skills: Circular



Students reading books during library hour (file photo)

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) has issued a circular directing all schools across the state to have a fixed library period once a week to enable students to access books at the school libraries and inculcate reading habits in schoolchildren.

The circular dated July 25 states that the students (Class I to X) should have access to books of different genres, including fiction, folklore, poetry, non-fiction, and comics. The authorities are directed to take measures to establish children-friendly libraries or reading corners at schools.

Replacing periods such as radio or other vocational skills, the circular has issued tentative periods for

“Child-friendly libraries should be defined by children themselves & should include diverse, inclusive, & engaging content that reflects their interests

—Child Rights Trust Director
Nagasimha G Rao

students of different classes and fixed the following timings for the library hours: 3.10 pm to 3.40 pm on Fridays for students in classes I to III; 3.50 pm to 4.30 pm on Mondays for class IV; 3.50 pm to 4.30 pm on Fridays for class V; 3.50 pm to 4.30 pm on Thursdays for classes VI, VII, and VIII; and 3.50 pm to 4.30 pm on Tuesdays for classes IX and X stu-

dents. "Reading books will improve children's vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, concentration, language, and creative writing. It also develops their intellectual skills such as critical thinking, analytical ability, summarising, imagination, creativity, and empathy," the circular stated.

The circular has made it clear that schools must use library grants given annually by Samagra Shikshana Karnataka (SSK) and grants available under Reading Room (RR) funds collected by the students. "Using these grants, libraries must purchase quality reading materials for children during the academic year. DSEL has recommended a list of quality books for primary, senior primary, and high schools. Schools can select and purchase the required books," it said.

Furthermore, school teachers are instructed to help students in Classes I to V by conducting reading

activities and aiding them to grow as independent readers. The teachers can read the story with gestures for easy understanding, conduct peer reading, and organise post-reading activities based on short stories for lower classes. For senior classes, students should be allowed to pick their own books and hold discussions in the class.

Appreciating the education department's initiative to revamp school libraries, Child Rights Trust Director Nagasimha G Rao said, "I strongly believe that student voices must be at the forefront of this effort. Child-friendly libraries should be defined by the children themselves and should include diverse, inclusive, engaging content that reflects their experiences and interests and sparks their curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. Doing so can create safe and empowering spaces that foster a lifelong love of learning and reading."

Remove all invasions in Western Ghats: Forest Minister

| Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has instructed the Deputy Chief Secretary of the Forest, Ecology, and Environment Department to clear all forest encroachments in the Western Ghats area of the state. Ordering action against barangays, plantations, homestays, and resorts, he has asked the officials to file a detailed action report taken against these encroachments within one month.

According to this, any form of encroachment of forests in the Western Ghats, including Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, Mysuru, Chamarajanagara, Belgaum, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Kodagu, and Hassan, since 2015 will be cleared.

"While 11 precious lives were lost in a landslide near the state capital, 250 innocent people have died and more than 200 people have gone missing in the landslide mishap in Wayanad, Kerala. These tragedies are wake-up calls, and the survival of the Western Ghats is more important than ever," said the Minister in a press note.

Notably, experts have been linking such disasters to the unscientific development of linear projects in the Western Ghats, the development of coffee plantations by clearing forest lands, and the mushrooming of illegal resorts, hotels, and homestays. Khandre said that the issue has been taken up by the government. "Unscientific projects such as the construction of roads along with the development of coffee plantations and houses, homestays, and resorts have disturbed the natural balance of the mountains. Many other areas with high footfall and vehicular traffic are in danger, especially trekking routes," added Khandre.

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO



DYING PROWESS Coconut groves are vanishing in Bengaluru and palm tree climbers are hard to find. Here I found a climber, just descending after finishing his breakfast of coconut milk and pulp at the tree top itself

The picture was clicked by BM reader **A Avani**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

DID YOU KNOW?



Corals get their colour from microscopic protozoa known as zooxanthellae. The primary food source for shallow corals that form reefs, such as brown rice coral and blue rice coral, is this algae, which is found inside the coral tissue. They coexist in symbiosis, with the coral feeding on the zooxanthellae and the latter protecting the former. Additionally, these algae provide sunblock for the coral. Zooxanthellae are able to photosynthesise, but corals cannot because they are animals. Sugars, a byproduct of their photosynthesis, nourish the coral. However, corals experience stress and the symbiosis breaks down when ocean temperatures rise. The metabolism of the zooxanthellae is accelerated under warm temperatures, leading to the production of a poisonous chemical. The corals react by pushing out the algae and their sunscreen, which exposes them to dangerous UV rays. Some corals' capacity to reproduce successfully is impacted by bleaching. Corals cannot produce new offspring, which are adaptable if they're unable to breed.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

City-based documentary maker explores world's biggest transport cooperative system

In his documentary, Nigale highlights current abandonment of the institution, hoping it will be renewed soon

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Even before the Shakti scheme was introduced, a cooperative bus system which was prevalent in Karnataka and was billed as one of its kind in Asia has now been pushed to oblivion. Sugghosh S Nigale, a young documentary maker from Bengaluru has now focussed on this unique cooperative system that had turned the bus driver and conductors as shareholders of their company.

Sugghosh said that his docu-



Documentary maker Sugghosh S Nigale in front of his documentary poster titled, "Right Right"

mentary titled, "Right Right" (denoting the words used by conductors to alert the driver to move) captures the essence of this unique transportation model, which served as more than just a means of transit but as a vital part of Malnad's transport fabric. "The documentary takes viewers on a journey through the early days of the organisa-

tion, starting with Shankar Bus Company and its evolution into a cooperative system. It highlights how Shankar Transport Company transformed from a traditional entity into a groundbreaking cooperative model under the leadership of visionary entrepreneurs and the collective efforts of workers. The documentary also explores the challenges

faced by the organisation, from initial mismanagement to labour disputes. The documentary poignantly portrays how, despite numerous obstacles, the Cooperative Transportation system flourished with an initial fleet of four buses and eventually grew to a fleet of 76 buses," he said.

One of the documentary's most moving moments is a depiction of the cooperative's decline and the current state of abandoned buses, left to rust and decay. The documentary captures the contrast between the buses' past glory and their present state, raising questions about the future of this once-revered institution. The documentary also touches upon the efforts made to revive the organisation, including appeals to political figures and changes in the management committee. There remains a glimmer of hope of its comeback as a driven success.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

What specific neighbourhood or area in Bengaluru do you consider your favourite, and why?



Meghana V, BM Reader
Church Street is vibrant street, nestled in the heart of the city, is a treasure trove of experiences. The place where the old and the new coexist, where traditional bookstores stand alongside modern cafes.



Shreedar D, BM Reader
HSR Layout is a locality that stands out for its peaceful ambience and minimal traffic. The streets are wide and well-maintained, contributing to the smooth flow of traffic. The neighbourhood is quiet, with an atmosphere that is inviting.



Anupama M, BM Reader
Chikkammanahalli is a place that many would find appealing for its peaceful and safe environment. The area is known for its minimal traffic, making commuting a breeze. The neighborhood exudes a sense of safety as well.



Siddraju S, BM Reader
Sarjapura is a place of fresh and serene environment. The local food scene is another highlight, offering a variety of culinary delights that cater to different tastes. Despite being a part of the city, Sarjapur is less crowded.



Mallesh M, BM Reader
Basavanapura, because it's a silent neighbourhood with affordable and peaceful locality. The sense of safety that the neighborhood provides makes it a comfortable and secure place to live.



Kaveri M, BM Reader
CK Palya, because of a lot of job opportunities, thanks to the presence of numerous industries. The peaceful surroundings, coupled with a diverse food scene and a mild crowd, make CK Palya a pleasant place to reside.

SPEAK TO US

Is there a specific street or road in Bengaluru that holds special significance for you, and why?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on [9591233247](tel:9591233247) or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

Father can't be charged of 'kidnapping' his minor child from wife's custody: HC

As long as his rights of guardianship haven't been revoked, he can't be guilty

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Karnataka High Court has ruled that a father cannot be accused of kidnapping his minor child from the custody of his wife, unless a competent court has issued a prohibition order against him. Justice Venkatesh Naik T, in a single judge bench, granted the petition filed by the husband and dismissed the proceedings initiated against him by his wife under Section 363 IPC.

The court stated, "It is not a case that the mother was lawfully entrusted within the care or custody of the minor by an order of the competent Court. Therefore, the petitioner-accused is the natural guardian to the child. In the absence of any prohibition of the order of the competent court, the petitioner-father cannot be booked for taking away his own minor child from the custody of her mother."

According to the complaint, the petitioner-father attended the child's second birthday at his estranged wife's house and then took the minor to his own house



for another birthday celebration. Subsequently, the wife filed a complaint for kidnapping.

The court referred to Section 361 of IPC, which states that the term "lawful guardian" includes any person lawfully entrusted with the care or custody of a minor. Under Section 6 of the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, the father is the natural guardian, followed by the mother. The court held that if a minor of the age specified in Section 361 IPC is taken out of the custody of the lawful guardian, the offence would be complete.

The court concluded that a father cannot be held guilty under

Section 361 IPC for taking away his child from the mother's custody, as long as his rights of guardianship have not been revoked.

High court quashes drug case against Columbia University student

Karnataka High Court has dismissed a case filed under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act against a student pursuing higher education at Columbia University in the United States. Justice M Nagaprasanna, presiding over a single judge bench, stated, "The petitioner, who is a student pursuing

his Masters elsewhere, beyond the shores of the nation, should not be made to suffer for the voluntary/confessional statements of the co-accused."

According to the prosecution, in 2018, the police confiscated nearly two kilograms of ganja from two accused individuals who claimed that the petitioner had introduced them to the habit of possessing and consuming the contraband. At the time, the petitioner was a student at the Manipal Institute of Technology. The prosecution alleged that the petitioner fled the scene, leading to a split charge sheet being filed against him in 2022.

The petitioner contended that apart from being labeled as an absconder, no efforts were made to contact him. Furthermore, the statements made by the co-accused held no evidentiary value unless corroborated by the petitioner's actions. The prosecution countered the plea, arguing that since the charge sheet had been filed, the petitioner must prove his innocence in court. Due to the petitioner's absence from India, the numerous non-bailable warrants issued have been unenforceable.

HC asks govt to consider MUDA Mysuru march approval

Karnataka High Court, presided over by Justice Hemant Chandangoudar, issued an order on Friday directing the State Government to consider the representation submitted by the State Bharatiya Janata Party General Secretary. The representation sought permission to organise a peaceful march, known as a padayatre, from Bengaluru to Mysuru on August 3, along with a request for police protection during the event.

The purpose of the march is to protest against the multi-core scams related to the Valmiki Corporation and the MUDA. P Rajeev, petitioner, who didn't receive any response despite several mails to authorities, reached the court.

Once sale deed stamped, sale agreement can't be independently subjected to stamp duty: HC

Karnataka High Court has ruled that once a sale deed has been properly executed and stamped, the agreement of sale cannot be separately subjected to stamp duty as it has been incorporated into the sale deed.

In a partition suit, the trial court had impounded the agreement of sale dated December 11, 2002, produced by the petitioners, Nagamma and others, and ordered them to pay the deficit stamp duty along with a penalty. The petitioners contended that since the agreement of sale is accompanied by possession, the document should not independently attract stamp duty, given that a sale deed was subsequently executed, which supersedes the earlier agreement of sale.

SC notice on plea to allow blood donation by gay men, transgenders, sex workers

Supreme Court on Friday issued a notice to the central government and others on a plea challenging rules that prevent blood donation by gay men, transgender persons and sex workers.

On October 11, 2017, the National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC) and the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare notified Guidelines on Blood Donor Selection and Blood Donor Referral and these guidelines permanently restrain transgenders, female sex workers and LGBTQI persons from donating blood.

Petitioner Sharif D Rangnekar said that the guidelines are based on a highly prejudicial and presumptive view taken with regard to gay men in the 1980s in the United States of America. Since then, many countries including the USA, the United Kingdom, Israel and Canada, amongst others have revisited their views, stated the plea.

From a scientific perspective, such a blanket restriction on blood donation is based on the assumption that a particular group of people may be suffering from sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), added the petition.

NEET-UG 2024: SC asks NTA to avoid "flip-flops" in exams

Supreme Court on Friday said that the National Testing Agency (NTA) should avoid "flip-flops" in conducting the exams and observed that mishaps orchestrated by it were a luxury students cannot afford.

Pronouncing the detailed judgement



SC refuses to quash defamation case filed by Divya Spandana against Asianet News Network

Supreme Court on Friday refused to quash the defamation case filed by actor-politician Divya Spandana against Asianet News Network and journalist Vishweshwar Bhat, for repeatedly telecasting her name, photos and videos in an alleged involvement of actresses in betting and spot fixing.

A three-judge bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and justices J B

Pardiwala and Manoj Misra declined to interfere with the Karnataka High Court order refusing to quash the proceedings. "The petitioners have failed to produce any material before this court to show that there was any proceedings before the court against the complainant with regard to her involvement or connection in any manner with cricket betting or spot fixing," the high court had said. —PTI

on pleas seeking cancellation of NEET-UG 2024 over allegation of paper leak and malpractices, the apex court asked the Central government to completely restructure the exam process.

It directed the Centre-appointed committee to recommend and implement

top-to-bottom overhauling of the exam process, including security improvements, data protection measures, periodic audits, surprise inspections of exam centres, grievance redressal mechanisms for students and foolproof logistics.

—ANI

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FB friends' harassment leads to woman's suicide

A woman is said to have taken her own life on Monday, allegedly after enduring harassment and blackmail by two high school friends she reconnected with on Facebook. The 21-year-old housewife, Mamata, left a death note blaming the two for her decision to end her life. The police have registered a case of abetment to suicide and harassment based on her note and her

husband's complaint. One of the accused from JP Nagar, has been arrested, while the other remains at large. Months ago, Mamata reconnected with the duo via Facebook. Their friendship turned toxic as both men began harassing her through calls and messages, pressuring her to meet them.

Despite blocking their numbers, the harassment continued through

video calls on Facebook Messenger. Distressed, Mamata confided in Lokesh, who warned the men on July 20. However, the harassment persisted. On Monday morning, Mamata tearfully informed Lokesh about the harassment before he left for work. Lokesh, who works as a car driver, returned home around 10:30 pm after receiving no response to his calls and found his wife dead.

Man stabs wife to death

A woman was allegedly murdered by her husband, in MD Block under Chamarajpet police station. The crime occurred around 8:30 am following a family dispute. The man Tabrez Pasha, who is from Siddapur, is currently on the run. Tabrez and Fatima were married for nine years and had two children. Their marriage was troubled, leading Fatima to leave her

husband and stay at her mother's house in MD Block. A divorce application was in the trial stage. According to police, Tabrez broke into Fatima's house and stabbed her multiple times in the chest and abdomen with a knife. Fatima's mother was at home during the incident, while her brother was out. The postmortem examination is over.

Your Connect

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

WE, Khaleel Ahamad Nadaf and Sufiya Nadaf, residing at: 22202, Tower 22, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, Gunjur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru 560087, have changed our minor son's name from ARSH KHALEEL AHAMAD NADAF to ARSH NADAF, vide affidavit dated 01/08/2024 before Notary B.Seshagiri, Bangalore

I, Jithendra N. S/o Nataraja G. Residing at No 16 'N' Block Adugodi police quarters, Bangalore 560030 Karnataka, have my name incorrectly spelt as Jeethendra N in my Educational certificates & Marksheet. The correct spelling is Jithendra N and should be considered for all future purposes.

I Ashwini Basavant Kore w/o Deepak Kumar Kudarimani R/o #104 A Block 1st Flr Mahaveer Cygnet Kogilu Village, Yelahanka, B'luur-560064 have changed my name to Ashwini Deepak Kumar Kudarimani vide Affidavit Dt 02/08/2024 Notary B S Padmaprasad B'luur

I, SAMARTH PATIL S/o Sadanand Patil, R/at No.F-210 Temple Trees Apts, Kanakapura Main Road J.P.Nagar 6th Phase, Bangalore- 560078 have changed my name to SAMARTH SADANAND PATIL vide affidavit dated: 1/8/2024 Before Notary V.Rajashekhara Bangalore.

I, Sayeda Pharzana Mushrif W/o Sayed Mussaquadri R/o Ward.06., Hamza Hussaini Darga, Bijapur, Po: Bijapur Railway Station, Dist: Vijayapura, 586104 have changed my name to Sayeda Farzana S Jagirdar Affidavit Dt.02/08/2024 notary Harisha G, Bengaluru

I Shubhakar S/o Erapappa Reddy R/a. 124, parappana Agrahara, Electronic city Post, B'lore-100 have changed my name to Shubhakar P E for future purpose.

I, Divya S D/O, Mr. Malsundar Singh R. R/O Flat 205, Amor Apartment, 10th Cross, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560098 have changed my name to Divya Thiagarajan for all purposes

I Anu W/O, Rohit Satheesan R/o A02 La Benita Apartment, No. 19, Silver Spring Road, Munnekolala, Bangalore - 560037 have changed my name to Anu Ramakrishnan.

I, Zarina Rajan Also known as Anthony Rajan W/o J Rajan R/o Sy No.113/3, Nagondanahalli, Shivankunte Rd, United Builders, Whitefield, B'luur 560066 have changed my name to ZARINA RAJAN affidavit Dt.02/08/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luur

I, Manoj Kumar Mulanjur S/o Vattarangath Arakulanga Karmachandran R/o B201 Hinduja Lake Front Estate, Bannerghatta Rd Hulimavu Bengaluru 76 have changed my name to Manoj Kumar Nair and father name as Vattarangath Nair

I Kamaraj Ramasamy S/O, Ramasamy R/o No 42, 1st Flr Old Manjunatha Layout, 3rd B Cross Anandpuram, T C Palya, K R Puram, Bengaluru - 560036 have changed my name to Kamaraj Krishnasamy Ramasamy.

I Vijaya Kumar Kondur Anantharaju S/o Kondur Anantharaju R/o No 933 Gulpet Kolar 563101 have changed my name to Vijaya Kumar Konduru Anantharaju for all purposes.

I, SALMA BANU W/o Syed Afzal R/o No:- 115/11-1 3rd Cross K H Ranganatha Colony Bangalore 560018 have changed my name to SALMA FATHIMA for all purposes

I Sunaina Yesudas Bojugu D/O, Yesudas Bojugu residing in Pride Pegasus, Byrathi, Kothanur will now be known as Sunaina Samuel.

I, Susheela Kamath, R/at No.123, I.Y.D road, 2nd Cross, Arisinakunte, Nelamangala, Bengaluru-562123 have changed my name to Susheela Narayana Rao Kamath, vide affidavit dt: 22.07.2024 sworn before notary V Anjanappa, B.lore.

LOST & FOUND

Document Lost

I, Chawdamma W/o Late Erappa, resident at Thaggihalli Village, Puravara Hobli, Madhugiri Taluk, Tumkur District stating that, original sale deed of my land in Survey No.43:1 of Kondawadi Village is lost on 29.05.2024.

The said sale deed was accidentally lost while cleaning of our house at Taggihalli village. I have filed a complaint (LR No.1129200/2024) to the Tumkur Police on 04.07.2024 regarding this. If anyone finds the said document, please contact the above address or mobile number 9141037717.

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Infosys says K'taka govt withdrawing pre-show cause notice on GST notice

Infosys says that the Karnataka State authorities are withdrawing the pre-show cause GST notice issued to Infosys with a tax demand of Rs 32,403 crore, the company informed the exchange in a filing on Friday.

"The Company has received a communication from Karnataka State authorities, withdrawing the pre-show cause notice and has directed the Company to submit a further response to DGGI central authority on this matter," said Infosys.

Earlier on Wednesday the Karnataka State GST authorities issued a pre-show cause notice to Infosys for payment of GST of Rs. 32,403 crores for the period July 2017 to March 2022 towards the expenses incurred by overseas branch

offices of Infosys Limited.

The Company responded to the pre-show cause notice and stated that the Company believes that as per regulations, GST is not applicable to these expenses. "Additionally, as per a recent Circular (circular number 210/4/2024 dated June 26, 2024) issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs on the recommendations of the GST Council, services provided by the overseas branches to Indian entity are not subject to GST," said the company.

The clarification from Infosys came post news articles published on Wednesday for non-payment of GST towards expenses incurred by the overseas branches of the Company. **ANI**

UVCE students demand immediate release of SSP scholarship

Iffath.Fathima
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After the completion of the second and third-year exams at University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE), the SSP scholarship for BCM students has yet to be issued, leaving hundreds of poor students struggling. It has been five months since the exams ended, and students are demanding immediate action from the state government.

In response to this delay, All India Democratic Students Organisation (AIDSO) and the UVCE Students' Struggle Committee organised a protest at Freedom Park. Addressing the gathering, State Vice-President Abhaya Diwakar criticised the government for its anti-student policies. "In 2021, during Covid, the State government snatched the dream of poor engineering aspirants by passing the UVCE bill to reserve 25% seats for Joint Entrance



Examination (JEE) students. This is part of a history of anti-student policies, starting from the National Education Policy (NEP) brought by the Rajiv Gandhi government in 1986. Students' movement is the only alternative to end such injustices. This movement for scholarship should continue till its end," she appealed to the students.

District President Apoorva highlighted the significance of the SSP scholarship, stating, "Due to the

immense students' movement across years, the SSP Scholarship was implemented. This was a reward for such a mighty struggle in realizing the dreams of great men about democratic education. It is very unfortunate that every government coming into power is shirking off its basic responsibility."

Following the protest, a memorandum was submitted to the BCM Commissioner. Kalyan, Bengaluru District Secretary, presided over the protest, and hundreds of students attended.

Lohit, a 3rd-year Information Science and Engineering (ISE) student, expressed his concerns, "We urge the authorities to address these issues promptly so that deserving students can receive the financial support they need."

Another 3rd-year ISE student, Sudeep, added, "Many students, including myself, have been unable to receive any type of scholarship from the government due to insufficient funds allocated for Backward Classes Welfare Development (BCWD) students and academic delays."

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**ENTRY &
PARKING
FREE**

Petitions for skywalk sent to authorities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

students of Christ University Kengeri Campus situated at Kanmanike, near Kumbalgodu. The absence of a skywalk or a pedestrian subway is causing problems for the people of Kanmanike who want to reach the other side of the road.

It is learnt that Christ University Kengeri Campus authorities have already submitted a petition to the NHAI authorities appealing them to construct a skywalk or a pedestrian subway but the NHAI authorities are yet to start the construction work even one year after the inauguration of the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway.

Alumni of Christ University Kengeri Campus have urged the NHAI authorities to begin the construction of the skywalk or the pedestrian subway without any delay.

Aubrey King-lee, an alumnus of Christ University Kengeri Campus, recalled a scene that filled him with fear and shock while he was returning from Ooty.

"As I passed by Christ University Kengeri, my alma mater, I witnessed students from the campus running across Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway. This immediately brought back memories of a time when one of my classmates was struck by a bike. She had to go to college on a stretcher because it was mandatory to attend.

It is not uncommon to see vehicles going up to 80 kmph or more, and near misses are frequent. Have we neglected the safety of students? Will we only take action after a tragedy occurs? Is it pertinent to ask, who will be held accountable?" King-lee asked.

He has already launched an online petition in support of the

construction of a skywalk or a pedestrian subway.

Darrell, an alumnus of Christ University Kengeri Campus, said that he did MBA more than a decade ago at the campus.

"A girl student was injured when a bike hit her while she was going to her hostel situated a few hundred metres away from the campus. Now, both the hostels are inside the campus. It will be a great help if the authorities concerned construct a skywalk or pedestrian subway for the benefit of the students," said Darrell.

NHAI engineer Arun B from Ramanagara said the survey to identify the suitable location for the construction of a skywalk has already been completed. "The construction of the proposed skywalk will begin within a month. I expect the work to be completed in a month," said Arun.

Building bylaw violations continue unabated

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bylaws but using facilities such as water supply illegally. One of the residents got a water bill running into thousands of rupees even though their house is not occupied," said another local.

Complaints regarding the violation of building bylaws have been given to Fire and Emergency Services, Government of Karnataka as well.

Residents say building bylaw violations continue unabated in Nandidurg and Jayamahal Extensions and on Nandidurg Road. Evacuation in the case of an emergency will be next to impossible.

"Many buildings in the area are

being constructed with extra levels and without setbacks. We have informed Fire and Emergency Services about an gas cylinder distributorship in Jayamahal Palace Grounds near 19, 6th Road. There are over 200 loaded cylinders in the depot at any given time, and residents live in constant fear of a major fire. The lanes are narrow, and many cars are blocking easy access all through the day and night," the resident complained.

Another case of violation has been reported from Basavangudi. The complaint has raised the issue of fraudulent conversion of a public lane into private property by the builder.

"A building on Church Road has encroached a lane which is a

public road. The lane has to be cleared by BBMP by demolishing the building. A public lane measuring 35 feet by 220 feet, with a total value of Rs 70 crore, has been encroached on. This is by builders and land grabbers who have conspired to forge and tamper with the city survey maps and connected land records to manipulate measurements," lamented a senior citizen in the area.

The resident says a complaint has been raised, and an inspection was carried out by BBMP recently.

"BBMP has admitted that the building licence is not issued by them, and the entire building, therefore, is built with a fake licence, including the public lane," said the resident.

OPEN AND SHUT

Meta just launched the largest 'open' AI model in history. Here's why it matters

In the world of artificial intelligence (AI), a battle is underway. On one side are companies that believe in keeping the datasets and algorithms behind their advanced software private and confidential. On the other are companies that believe in allowing the public to see what's under the hood of their sophisticated AI models. Think of this as the battle between open- and closed-source AI. In recent weeks, Meta, the parent company of Facebook, took up the fight for open-source AI in a big way by releasing a new collection of large AI models. These include a model named Llama 3.1 405B, which Meta's founder and chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg, says is "the first frontier-level open source AI model".

For anyone who cares about a future in which everybody can access the benefits of AI, this is good news.

The danger of closed-source AI – and the promise of open-source AI. Closed-source AI refers to models, datasets and algorithms that are proprietary and kept confidential. Examples include ChatGPT, Google's Gemini and Anthropic's Claude.

Though anyone can use these products, there is no way to find out what dataset and source codes have been used to build the AI model or tool.

While this is a great way for companies to protect their intellectual property and their profits, it risks undermining public trust and accountability. Making AI technology closed-source also slows down innovation and makes a company or other users dependent on a single platform for their AI needs. This is because the platform that owns the model controls changes, licensing and updates.

There are a range of ethical frameworks that seek to improve the fairness, accountability, transparency, privacy and human oversight of AI. However, these principles are often not fully achieved with closed-source AI due to the inherent lack of transparency and external accountability associated with proprietary systems. In the case of ChatGPT, its parent company, OpenAI, releases neither the dataset nor code of its latest AI tools to the public. This makes it impossible for regulators to audit it. And while access to the service is free, concerns remain about how users' data are stored and used for retraining models.



By contrast, the code and dataset behind open-source AI models is available for everyone to see. This fosters rapid development through community collaboration and enables the involvement of smaller organisations and even individuals in AI development. It also makes a huge difference for small and medium size enterprises as the cost of training large AI models is colossal. Perhaps most importantly, open source AI allows for scrutiny and identification of potential biases and vulnerability.

However, open-source AI does create new risks and ethical concerns. For example, quality control in open source products is usually low. As hackers can also access the code and data, the

models are also prone to cyberattacks and can be tailored and customised for malicious purposes, such as retraining the model with data from the dark web.

An open-source AI pioneer

Among all leading AI companies, Meta has emerged as a pioneer of open-source AI. With its new suite of AI models, it is doing what OpenAI promised to do when it launched in December 2015 – namely, advancing digital intelligence "in the way that is most likely to benefit humanity as a whole", as OpenAI said back then. Llama 3.1 405B is the largest open-source AI model in history. It is what's known as a large language model, capable of generating human language text in multiple languages. It can be downloaded online but because of its huge size, users will need powerful hardware to run it.

While it does not outperform other models across all metrics, Llama 3.1 405B is considered highly competitive and does perform better than existing closed-source and commercial large language models in certain tasks, such as reasoning and coding tasks. But the new model is not fully open, because Meta hasn't released the huge data set used to train it. This is a big "open" element that is currently missing.

Nonetheless, Meta's Llama levels the playing field for research-

ers, small organisations and start-ups because it can be leveraged without the immense resources required to train large language models from scratch.

Shaping the future of AI

To ensure AI is democratised, we need three key pillars:

- governance: regulatory and ethical frameworks to ensure AI technology is being developed and used responsibly and ethically;
- accessibility: affordable computing resources and user-friendly tools to ensure a fair landscape for developers and users;
- openness: datasets and algorithms to train and build AI tools should be open source to ensure transparency. Achieving these three pillars is a shared responsibility for government, industry, academia and the public. The public can play a vital role by advocating for ethical policies in AI, staying informed about AI developments, using AI responsibly and supporting open-source AI initiatives.

But several questions remain about open-source AI. How can we balance protecting intellectual property and fostering innovation through open-source AI? How can we minimise ethical concerns around open-source AI?

Properly addressing these questions will help us create a future where AI is an inclusive tool for all. (By Seyedali Mirjalili, Torrens University, The Conversation)

BITS & BYTES

STAKE SLASH



Google-parent Alphabet cut its stake in cybersecurity company CrowdStrike, according to a regulatory filing on Friday, much before a global outage last month triggered by a software update. The company cut its stake to 427,895 class A shares from 855,789 shares. The change in holdings is as of June 30. CrowdStrike did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment. A worldwide tech outage on July 19 following a software update by CrowdStrike had crippled computer systems globally, affecting sectors ranging from healthcare to banking to aviation.

CrowdStrike shares have lost nearly 35% of the value since the outage as investors rethink their security strategy.

Reuters

SET FOR A FALL



Intel was set to erase nearly \$25 billion in market value on Friday in what would be its worst selloff since 2000 after it suspended its dividend and slashed its workforce to fund a costly turnaround for its chip-making business.

Shares of the company were down about 20% in premarket trading after Intel late on Thursday forecast quarterly revenue below estimates and said it was cutting 15% of its workforce, raising worries about its ability to catch up to Taiwan's TSMC and other chipmakers it has fallen behind in recent years.

Reuters

BYJU'S WOES



US-based Glas Trust is asking an Indian court to not quash insolvency proceedings for ed-tech giant Byju's as lenders the trust represents are owed \$1 billion, posing a new challenge for the Indian startup that was once the nation's biggest. Byju's was valued at \$22 billion in 2022 before being hit with setbacks.

The company has denied any wrongdoing. Byju's is facing insolvency proceedings after India's cricket board said it was not paid \$19 million in sponsorship dues. Its former billionaire CEO Byju Raveendran wants the insolvency quashed as his co-founder brother decided to pay the cricket board, settling the matter.

Reuters

“ Llama 3.1 405B is the largest open-source AI model in history. It is what's known as a large language model, capable of generating human language text in multiple languages. It can be downloaded online but because of its huge size, users will need powerful hardware to run it



Packed with protein

10 high protein vegetables to add to your diet

Plant-based diets have an image of not being as potent sources of nutrition as animal produce. But there are several vegetables and legumes that are high in protein. If you are finding it difficult being a vegetarian and still managing nutrition or are just looking to add more greens to your plate, here are 10 vegetables that are high on protein and can help you keep your levels apt:

1 Spinach

With over 45 per cent of protein content, it should come as no surprise that this leafy green is first on this list. Loaded with other valuable nutrients vitamin C, folic acid, and other B vitamins, spinach provides a substantial amount of protein when cooked, improving overall health. This versatile vegetable can be added to salads and pasta and can be moulded to fit almost any dish!

TIP: Cooking reduces the water content of the greens, allowing you to eat more greens and protein per cup. Even to add to smoothies, steam first to make the taste more pleasant.

2 Broccoli

Higher in protein than most vegetables, these greens are worth adding to your plate even if you are not a fan of the taste. Broccoli is relatively high in protein, which makes up about 45 per cent of its dry weight, compared to most

vegetables. It is also quite low in calories and contains practically no fat. A cup of broccoli can also provide your body with 10 per cent of the required fibre for a day. If you do not enjoy the taste, find ways of incorporating broccoli in smaller quantities to what you eat every day rather than eating and dreading lots of it in one go.

TIP: Gently steaming the vegetable prior to consumption can ensure the most health benefits are attained.

3 Peas

Eaten all over the world, as a part of the legume family, peas are a great source of protein for vegetarians to include in their diet. The abundance of protein content in peas then makes more sense and sets them apart from the rest of the vegetables. Cooked peas, for instance, have almost four times the protein content of cooked carrots. As a plus, they're versatile, easily available and can be a delicious addition to many recipes.

TIP: If you find it tough to like the tiny green spheres in your food, simply cook and blend them in a soup by themselves or with broccoli.

4 Avocados

Well, technically it is a fruit, but you know it is used more in recipes rather than as a fruit! It is one of the few high-protein fruits out there, as one avocado packs close to four grams of protein. Mind you, apart from the other nutrients you get out of this fruit, you get a good amount of 18 essential amino acids needed for the body. Although the calories from avocado can be on

the higher side, you can easily use this smoothly blended fruit as a spread instead of butter and cheese. Just ensure that you plan a meal with avocado in advance because you do not always get ripened avocados in the market.

TIP: If you happen to get a hard avocado from the market, worry not. You can ripen it faster by placing it in a paper bag or wrapping it in a newspaper for two to three days.

5 Cauliflower

Similar to broccoli, cauliflower provides a high amount of protein for the number of calories it is said to deliver. One cup, which generally comes to be about 100g of cauliflower contains 2g of protein and only about 25-30 calories. It is also a very versatile vegetable that can be adapted to a variety of recipes. It can act as a substitute for starchy carbohydrates, such as pasta or bread.

TIP: Cauliflower can be grated to create cauliflower rice, with which lots of interesting recipes can be created!

6 Corn

As delectable as it is to eat, corn can also be a great source of all nutrients, including protein. Depending on the variety, the protein content ranges from 10-15 per cent. Corn does, however, lack certain amino acids, which makes the protein less potent. One has to be paired with other vegetables, ones high on the lacking amino acids, to actually reap the benefits of corn as a source of protein. Corn can be eaten on its own or be used to complement and add to certain dishes.

TIP: Popcorn can be a healthy snack on its own but not when consumed with flavouring or sugary drinks or a load of butter.

7 Mushrooms

Mushrooms are a rich, low-calorie source of fibre, protein, and antioxidants; however, like corn, they do not have entire protein molecules. They do not have the amino acids that our body cannot make itself. Mushrooms can be made of complete proteins when combined with foods that make up the missing amino acids. So, upon mixing mushrooms with vegetables such as broccoli one can make use of this fungi's taste and texture.

TIP: Mushrooms have a rich, meaty taste to them and can replace meat in several dishes!

8 Parsley

Technically a herb, parsley is more potent not only in taste but also in the benefits it packs, than many realise. Vitamin K, a nutrient found abundantly in parsley, helps build stronger bones by supporting bone-building cells called osteoblasts. More relevant to our topic at hand, vitamin K is responsible for activating the effects of certain proteins inside the body, making them actually effective. The herb also has an impressive protein-per-calorie ratio. Packed with flavour, this herb is generally used to add taste and dimension, making it a great low-calorie ingredient for many recipes.

TIP: Since it lasts for up to two weeks when refrigerated, it is best to reap the benefits of fresh leaves of parsley as opposed to processed.

9 Chickpeas

This may seem strange on this list, but chickpeas are part of the legume family which counts as a vegetable and are protein-dense. They are a regular ingredient in a variety of cuisines and with good reason. Chickpeas are a great source of plant-based protein, making them an appropriate food choice for those who do not eat animal products. A 28-gram serving provides about 3 grams of protein, which is comparable to the protein content in similar foods like black beans and lentils. The protein in these, working together with the fibre can help curb hunger pangs and cravings.

TIP: Hummus is a very good way to keep this wondrous food in your daily intake.

10 Lentils

Like chickpeas, lentils are technically vegetables! Already a staple of the Indian diet, they are a very powerful source of plant protein. Lentils are made up of over 25 per cent protein, which makes them a great choice for a meat alternative. They're also a great source of iron, a mineral that is often lacking in vegetarian diets. It's worth noting that lentils don't seem to lose a lot of their health-promoting qualities post-cooking.

TIP: It's a good idea to soak these before cooking to counter the antinutrients that tend to be present in lentils.

—Yosha Khurana, Femina



All you need to know about...

Obesity & heart failure

Link decoded

US researchers have found how obesity impacts muscle structure in patients with a form of heart failure called "heart failure with a preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF)".

HFpEF

HFpEF is responsible for more than half of all heart failure worldwide. It also has quite high hospitalisation and death rates (30-40 per cent over 5 years). While it used to be generally associated with having high blood pressure and excess muscle growth (hypertrophy), in the last 20 years, HFpEF has been occurring more often in patients with severe obesity and diabetes.

Global rise

Even as both obesity and diabetes are rising globally, understanding the underlying causes of the diseases is critical, said researchers from Johns Hopkins University.

Structural anomaly

For the study, published in the journal Nature Cardiovascular Research, the team obtained a small piece of muscle tissue from 25 patients who had been diagnosed with varying degrees of HFpEF caused by diabetes and obesity. They compared them to heart tissue from 14 organ donors whose hearts were considered to be normal. Obese patients with HFpEF had notable ultrastructural abnormalities. Their mitochondria were swollen, pale, and disrupted, had many fat droplets, and their sarcomeres appeared tattered. These were not related to whether the patient had diabetes, and were less prominent in patients who were less obese, revealed the results.

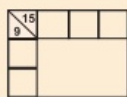
Question it raises

David Kass, Professor of Medicine at the varsity's School of Medicine said the finding raises a pertinent question "of whether reducing obesity, as is now being done with several drug therapies, will reverse these ultrastructural abnormalities, and in turn improve HFpEF outcome".

—IANS

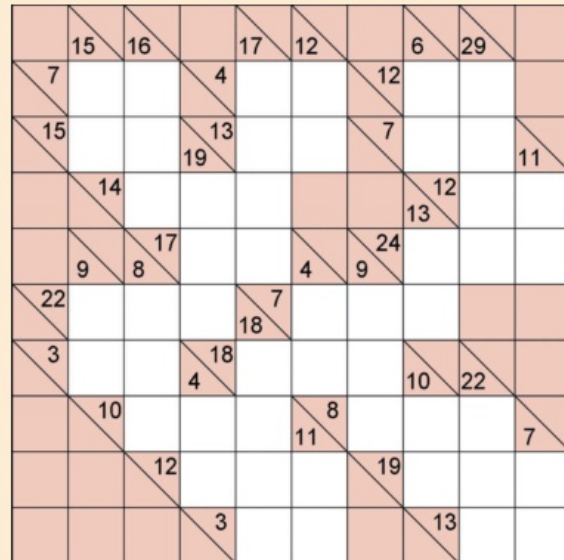
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

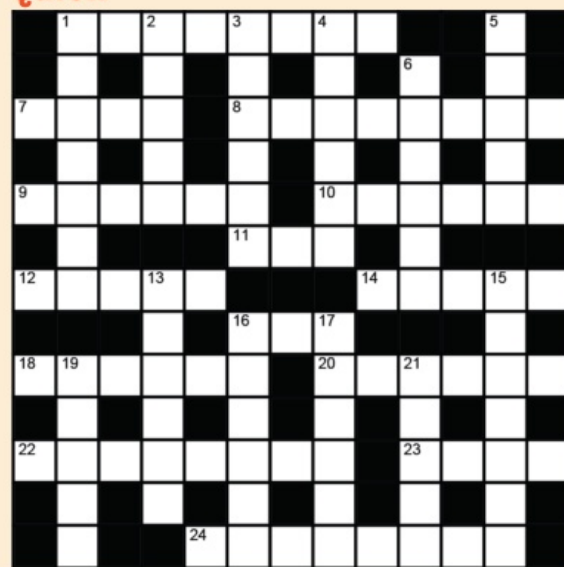


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Totality (8)
- 7 At the back (4)
- 8 Robbing or purloining (8)
- 9 Regard highly (6)
- 10 Bereaved child (6)
- 11 Flow back (3)
- 12 ___ shape : in poor condition? (2,3)
- 14 Kinds or classes (5)
- 16 Take to court (3)
- 18 Bicycle for two (6)
- 20 Concealed, veiled or disguised (6)
- 22 50 kms from Bangalore, this area is a favourite for rock climbers (8)
- 23 Parts of a toothed wheel? (4)
- 24 Outline (8)

DOWN

- 1 American essayist (7)
- 2 Abrupt (5)
- 3 Begin again (6)
- 4 On ___ : at work or in the course of doing the work? (3,3)
- 5 Craze or madness (5)
- 6 Careless (6)
- 13 Enthusiastic (6)
- 15 Comes out (7)
- 16 In a stuck up or proud manner (6)
- 17 Fertilized egg (6)
- 19 Frighten (5)
- 21 Footwear (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: B EQUALS P
PZVR NPCH BHPBVH DHK
MOJK KOHR MJZK. KOPNH JSH
KOH BHPBVH MOP NOPM IB KP
DHK WK.



Linemaro

You must be a choir director, because you make my heart sing



Mindchow

We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses



Joke of the day

Just been on a date with really attractive woman. Well, it wasn't really a date, we just had a meal together and watched a film. After a few hours, the plane landed and we went our separate ways

Loop

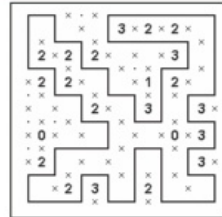
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

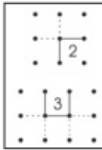
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

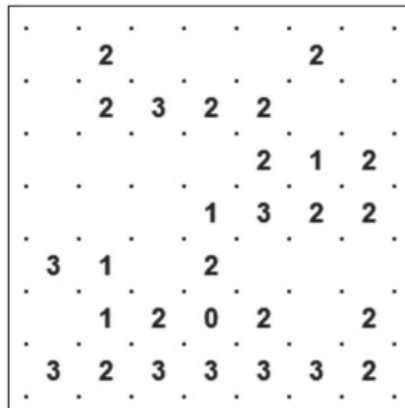
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



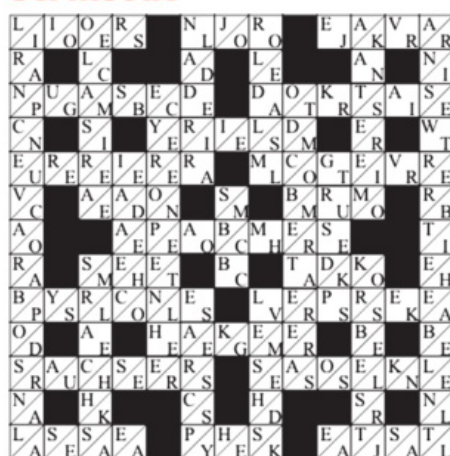
(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

- 1 Blare; 6 U veer;
- 7 Voter; 8 Circe;
- 9 The KC

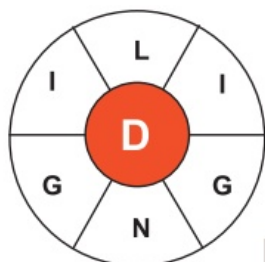
DOWN

- 1 No Clue; 2 Vee Le;
- 3 Revet; 4 Curia;
- 5 Chert

Mensapuzzle

What is the missing letter in this logical, straight forward sequence?

C D F H I L L P O T R _ ?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

$\square \square \square \square = 9$

$\square \square \square \square = 9$

Medium

$\square \square \square \square = 10$

$\square \square \square \square = 10$

Hard

$\square \square \square \square = 13$

$\square \square \square \square = 13$

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Brush is different. 2. Stick is longer. 3. Pocket on backpack is lower. 4. Trees in painting are missing. 5. Snowcap is missing from mountain. 6. Top of easel is not showing.

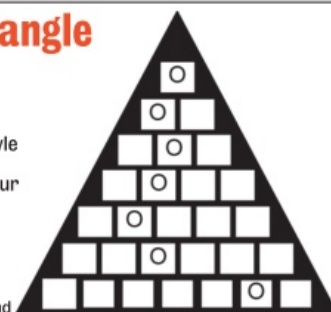
Riddler

Which is the odd one out: basset, basset-horn, contrabassoon, bass clarinet?

Alpha triangle

- 1 Circular letter
- 2 Not off
- 3 Prisoner
- 4 Create a word
- 5 Architectural style
- 6 Wry
- 7 Canine's neighbour

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

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Special few— Model Kendall Jenner has revealed that she is very selective about who she allows into her life. "I don't really let a lot of people in -- especially now. But I never have since I was young. It's kind of always been part of my nature," Kendall shared

Simple joys



Actress Rakul Preet Singh recently shared a glimpse into her 'simple joys of life', captured by the 'best' photographer -- her husband and filmmaker Jackky Bhagnani.

Taking to Instagram, Rakul, who has 23.7 million followers, posted a series of photos from her vacation abroad.

In the first picture, Rakul is seen wearing a black outfit and posing with pretty flowers alongside the road.

Another photo offers a peek into her breakfast: an avocado toast. A snap shows Rakul sitting at a cafe, donning a white tank top and a cross-body bag.

The last picture features her in a neon green shirt, enjoying an ice cream.

The post is captioned: "Simple joys of life... PS: I have the best photographer by my side, Jackky Bhagnani," followed by a red heart emoji.

A fan commented on the post: "Wow so pretty." Another user added: "And you are the joy of our life." Rakul and Jackky tied the knot on February 21, 2024, in Goa. On the professional front, Rakul made her acting debut in 2009 with the Kannada film 'Gilli', a remake of Selvaraghavan's '7G Rainbow Colony'.

The actress then featured in Telugu movies such as 'Keratom', 'Venkatadri Express', 'Rough', 'Loukyam', 'Current Theega', 'Bruce Lee', 'Nannaku Prematho', 'Dhruva', and 'Jaya Janaki Nayaka', among others.

—IANS

THE SHOWSTOPPERS

Vicky and Rashmika conquer the ramp

At the finale of the India Couture Week (ICW) 2024, Bollywood stars Vicky Kaushal and Rashmika Mandanna turned heads as showstoppers for Falguni-Shane Peacock.

Vicky Kaushal known for his stellar performances and charming persona, walked the ramp alongside the talented Rashmika Mandanna.

Recently, the 'Bad Newz' star took to Instagram to share a snippet from his ramp walk, where he is seen winking and pointing towards the audience, he then continues to complete his his walk with charm and a smile.

Vicky's brother Sunny Kaushal commented, "Arey handsome boyyy..aise aankh marega toh glaciers toh pighalenge hi". Well, Sunny was not wrong, Vicky indeed captured the heart of his fans with his gestures

Vicky walked the ramp in a stunning cream sherwani jacket. The jacket boasted intricate chikankari embroidery, shimmering sequin embellishments, a slit bandhgala collar, front button closures, full-length sleeves, padded shoulders, and a tailored fit. He paired it with a matching short kurta and straight-fit silk pants, completing the look with a trimmed beard, backswept hairdo, and embellished cream loafers.

Rashmika Mandanna, equally captivating, complemented Vicky's look with her own show-stopping attire. The duo will soon share screen space in Chhava.

—ETimes



Feeling grateful

Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas, who is currently making waves in Hollywood with her powerful performances, has expressed her gratitude to everyone who, without even knowing it, contributed to her journey in the film industry.

Priyanka took to Instagram and shared a video montage featuring all the dance performances she has done on stage at various award events in India. The actress reflected on her early days in the industry and her unexpected love affair with the stage and dancing. "Throwback to the early 2000s, around 2001, 2002. When I first started working in movies in Mumbai, I truly did not know how much of a love affair I would have with the stage and especially dancing on it," the actress wrote in the caption. Priyanka, who is currently in Australia, reminisced about her school days, where she always participated in extracurricular activities on stage.

"When I was in school, I was always doing extracurriculars on stage, but there was something that just hits different when I'm performing on songs from my movies sung by the most incredible singers in India and being able to deliver entertainment to a live audience. It is intoxicating," she added.

Priyanka, who is married to American pop star Nick Jonas, shared that performing on stage has made her feel "closest to her husband". "It's the closest I've felt to doing what my husband does every day, LOL. #rockstarlife But looking back at some of these videos, I can't help but get nostalgic about how the young me would go for multiple rehearsals over days, lean on the incredible choreographers and dancers that sculpted me into becoming more and more confident on stage and on set," she said.

—IANS



Tedious trek that tires the audience

nine people, who embark on a trek, use two motorbikes and one jeep to reach a location. They abandon those vehicles and go on the trek for two days. The director did not bother to explain why they abandoned those vehicles and what happened to those vehicles. Abhijith appears and disappears during the pre-intermission session without any purpose or justification. His performance in the post-intermission is not up to the mark.

The movie is about Krishna, a MBBS student and his mother Saraswathi. While Krishna spends time trekking instead of studying, his mother is seen asking him to focus on completing his MBBS. She also worries how to repay the loan taken from Shankaranna for Krishna's education. In peculiar and incongruous circumstances, Krishna happens to come across a book.

Meanwhile, Saraswathi has to go to Mysuru for two days. She asks her son to be at home but he embarks on a trek to Adavikatte with eight friends. What happens to him and what is the role of



ADAVIKATTE

2.0
RATING



• **DIRECTOR** Sanjeev Gavandi
• **ACTORS** Abhijith, Nagaraju N, Shanthi Anshrik, Yash Shankar, Anu Prema, Ravichandra R, and Manjula
• **CERTIFICATION** U/A
• **Duration** 96 minutes

Family Star Abhijith is what Adavikatte is all about.

As far as the performances of the actors are concerned, it is too early for them to act. It seems all of them have acted in this movie without undergoing any training whatsoever.

It is worth a watch if you absolutely have no other option to spend your money and time and also provided that you are ready to cope with poor cinematography and absurd choreography that looks like a physical training drill at a primary school.

—Y Maheswara Reddy